

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 166495
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:TMARTIN

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:TMARTIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 166495

NODIS

FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT LIBREVILLE QIQRN SENT SECSTATE 16 JULY:

QUOTE O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1814

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CD, US

SUBJ: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

REF: STATE 166492

1. BELIEVE GABON WOULD RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY TO FRENCH
INVITATION TO ATTEND "FRIENDS OF CHAD" MEETING IN
PARIS. AS REPORTED NDJAMENA 2186 AND LIBREVILLE 1652,
GOG HAS ALREADY SENT TWO AIRCRAFT AND PILOTS TO
ASSIST GOC, AND MIGHT BE PREPARED TO INCREASE LEVEL
OF ITS ASSISTANCE IF OFFERED CONVENIENT MULTILATERAL
UMBRELLA UNDER WHICH TO DO SO.

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2. ONLY POSSIBLE CONSTRAINTS ON PRESIDENT BONGO'S
FREEDOM TO ACT IN FULL SUPPORT OF GOC ARE HIS ROLE
AS OAU CHAIRMAN AND GABONESE MEMBERSHIP ON AD HOC
COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED AT OAU SUMMIT TO INVESTIGATE
AND PERHAPS MEDIATE CHAD-LIBYA DISPUTE (LIBREVILLE
1696). BECAUSE OF THIS DUAL RESPONSIBILITY, BONGO
MAY FEEL NEED TO PRESERVE PUBLIC POSTURE OF

RELATIVE NEUTRALITY, EVEN WHILE PROVIDING
PRIVATE SUPPORT TO GOC.

3. IN ADDITION TO GABON, MEMBERS OF OAU AD HOC
COMMITTEE ARE SENEGAL, ALGERIA, NIGERIA,
MOZAMBIQUE, AND CAMEROON. STEIMAN UNQUOTE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, CAT-B, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE166495
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:TMARTIN
Enclosure: FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N770004-0297
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770749/aaaabqrs.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c4f5356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Reference: 77 STATE 166492
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1836951
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD
TAGS: MASS, MOPS, CD, US
To: WHITE HOUSE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c4f5356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009